

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 19 and 20 are amended as set forth below.

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 1 to 8 (Cancelled).

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein said vehicle includes a supply voltage unit for supplying a supply voltage and electrical systems, the method comprising a further step of maintaining the parking brake braking force even when the  
5 supply voltage for the electrical systems of the vehicle is switched off.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein said vehicle includes a supply voltage and an electrical system, the method comprising a further step of maintaining the neutral position or the park position of the transmission when the supply  
5 voltage for the electrical systems of the vehicle is switched off; and, only then leaving the position of the transmission when the start-drive command of the driver is recognized.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, comprising a further step of interrupting the force flow after a predetermined

time has elapsed after detection of standstill.

Claim 12 (Cancelled).

13. (Previously Presented) A method for ensuring standstill of a vehicle in combination with an adaptive road speed controller of the vehicle, the vehicle including a drive train incorporating an automatic transmission which provides and interrupts a force  
5 flow in the drive train, the method comprising the steps of:

measuring at least the distance of said vehicle to an object ahead of said vehicle;

activating the engine control or the braking control of said vehicle in dependence upon said distance and a desired value so  
10 that said vehicle can be braked to standstill;

building up and/or maintaining a braking force in the manner of a parking brake function when said standstill of said vehicle is detected;

interrupting the force flow in the drive train of said  
15 vehicle by controlling an automatic transmission into a neutral position or a park position;

detecting a start-drive command of the driver when an operator-controlled element is actuated;

disengaging said parking brake function and controlling said  
20 automatic transmission out of said neutral position or said park position when said start-drive command is detected; and,

activating said adaptive road speed controller in response to an actuation of said operator-controlled element by the driver.

14. (Previously Presented) An arrangement for ensuring  
standstill of a vehicle in combination with an adaptive road  
speed controller of the vehicle, the vehicle including a drive  
train incorporating an automatic transmission which provides and  
5 interrupts a force flow in the drive train, the arrangement  
comprising a control unit which executes the following steps:

measuring at least the distance of said vehicle to an object  
ahead of said vehicle;

activating the engine control or the braking control of said  
10 vehicle in dependence upon said distance and a desired value so  
that said vehicle can be braked to standstill;

building up and/or maintaining a braking force in the manner  
of a parking brake function when said standstill of said vehicle  
is detected;

15 interrupting the force flow in the drive train of said  
vehicle by controlling an automatic transmission into a neutral  
position or a park position;

activating said adaptive road speed controller in response  
to an actuation by the driver of an operator-controlled element;

20 detecting a start-drive command of the driver when said  
operator-controlled element is actuated; and,

disengaging said parking brake function and controlling said  
automatic transmission out of said neutral position or said park  
position when said start-drive command is detected.

15. (Cancelled).

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Previously Presented) The arrangement of claim 14, wherein said operator-controlled element is a switch of the adaptive road speed controller.

18. (Cancelled).

19. (Currently Amended) A method for ensuring standstill of a vehicle in combination with an adaptive road speed controller of the vehicle, the method comprising the steps of:

measuring at least the distance of said vehicle to an object  
5 ahead of said vehicle and the speed of said vehicle;

activating the engine control or the braking control of said vehicle in dependence upon said distance and a desired value so that said vehicle can be braked to standstill;

building up and/or maintaining a braking force in the manner  
10 of a parking brake function when said standstill of said vehicle is detected;

detecting a start-drive command of the driver when ~~said~~ an operator-controlled element is actuated;

activating said adaptive road speed controller in response  
15 to actuation by the driver of ~~an~~ said operator-controlled element; ~~and,~~

disengaging said parking brake function when said start-drive command is ~~detected~~ detected; and,

controlling the engine control or the braking control of  
20 said vehicle in dependence upon said distance and speed of said

vehicle.

20. (Currently Amended) An arrangement for ensuring standstill of a vehicle in combination with an adaptive road speed controller of the vehicle, the arrangement comprising a control unit which executes the following steps:

5           measuring at least the distance of said vehicle to an object ahead of said vehicle and the speed of said vehicle;

          activating the engine control or the braking control of said vehicle in dependence upon said distance and a desired value so that said vehicle can be braked to standstill;

10           building up and/or maintaining a braking force in the manner of a parking brake function when said standstill of said vehicle is detected;

          detecting a start-drive command of the driver when ~~said~~ an operator-controlled element is actuated;

15           activating said adaptive road speed controller in response to an actuation by the driver of ~~an~~ said operator-controlled element;

          disengaging said parking brake function when said start-drive command is ~~detected~~ detected; and,

20           controlling the engine control or the braking control of said vehicle in dependence upon said distance and speed of said vehicle.